Claim Amendments

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the mono-PEG-IL-10 according to claim 21 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. (Withdrawn) A method of treating inflammation in an individual in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the individual a therapeutically effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9.

11. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing the mono-PEG-IL-10 according to claim 21, comprising the step of:

reacting IL-10 with an activated PEG-aldehyde linker in the presence of a reducing agent to form the mono-PEG-IL-10 under conditions in which the linker is covalently attached to one amino acid residue of the IL-10.

12. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 11 wherein:

(a) the reducing agent is sodium cyanoborohydride;

(b) the activated PEG-aldehyde linker is PEG-propionaldehyde;

(c) the PEG is a methoxy-PEG;

(d) the linker is multi-armed;

(e) the ratio of IL-10 to the sodium cyanoborohydride is from about 1:0.5 to 1:50;

(f) the total molecular mass of all PEG comprising the PEG-aldehyde linker is from 3,000 daltons to 60,000 daltons; or

(g) the reacting step is performed at a pH of 5.5 to 7.8.

13. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 11, wherein the ratio of IL-10 to the sodium cyanoborohydride is 1:5 to 1:15.

14. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 11, wherein the total molecular mass of all PEG comprising the PEG-aldehyde linker is from 10,000 daltons to 36,000 daltons.

15. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 11, wherein the reacting step is performed at a pH of 6.3 to 7.5.

16. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 11, further comprising a step selected from:

incubating the mono-PEG-IL-10 product in a buffer at pH 5.0 to 9.0; or

treating the mono-PEG-IL-10 product with 0.05 to 0.4 M hydroxylamine HCl salt.

17-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) A mono-pegylated Interleukin-10 (mono-PEG-IL-10) comprising one or more polyethylene glycol (PEG) molecules covalently attached via a linker to a single amino acid residue of a single subunit of IL-10, wherein said amino acid residue is the alpha amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue or the epsilon amino group of a lysine residue.

22. (Currently amended) The mono-PEG-IL-10 of claim 21, wherein one or two PEG molecules are attached via said linker to said single amino acid residue.

23. (Currently amended) The mono-PEG-IL-10 of claim 21, wherein [[one]] said subunit of said IL-10 has the formula:

$(PEG)_b$-L-NH-IL-10

wherein b is 1-9 and L is a $C_{2-12}$ alkyl linker moiety covalently attached to a nitrogen (N) of said single amino acid residue.

24. (Previously presented) The mono-PEG-IL-10 of claim 23, wherein b is 1 and L is $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$.

25. (Currently amended) The mono-PEG-IL-10 of claim 21, wherein said PEG molecule is covalently attached via said linker to the nitrogen of the alpha amino group of the N-terminal amino acid residue.

26. (Currently amended) The mono-PEG-IL-10 of claim 21, wherein said subunit of said IL-10 has the formula:

$$[X\text{-}O(CH_2CH_2O)_n]_b\text{-}L\text{-}NH\text{-}IL\text{-}10,$$

wherein X is H or $C_{1\text{-}4}$ alkyl, n is 20 to 2300, b is 1 to 9 and L is a $C_{1\text{-}11}$ alkyl linker moiety which is covalently attached to the nitrogen (N) of the alpha amino group at the amino terminus of one IL-10 subunit; provided that when b is greater than 1, the total of n does not exceed 2300.

27. (Previously presented) The mono-PEG-IL-10 of claim 26, wherein L is $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$ .

28. (Previously presented) The mono-PEG-IL-10 according to claim 21, wherein said mono-PEG-IL-10 has greater than 30% of the activity of unconjugated IL-10.

29. (Previously presented) A composition of pegylated IL-10 comprising the mono-PEG-IL-10 according to claim 21, wherein the population of mono-PEG-IL-10 is at least 80% of a positional isomer in which the PEG is conjugated to the N-terminal amino acid of one subunit of IL-10.

30. (Previously presented) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition comprising the mono-PEG-IL-10 according to claim 21, comprising mixing the mono-PEG-IL-10 with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. (New) The mono-PEG-IL-10 according to claim 21, wherein the IL-10 is human IL-10.

32. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the mono-PEG-IL-10 according to claim 31 and a pharmaceutical carrier.

33. (New) The mono-PEG-IL-10 according to claim 31, wherein the PEG molecule has a molecular weight of 12,000 or 20,000 daltons.

34. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the mono-PEG-IL-10 according to claim 33 and a pharmaceutical carrier.